



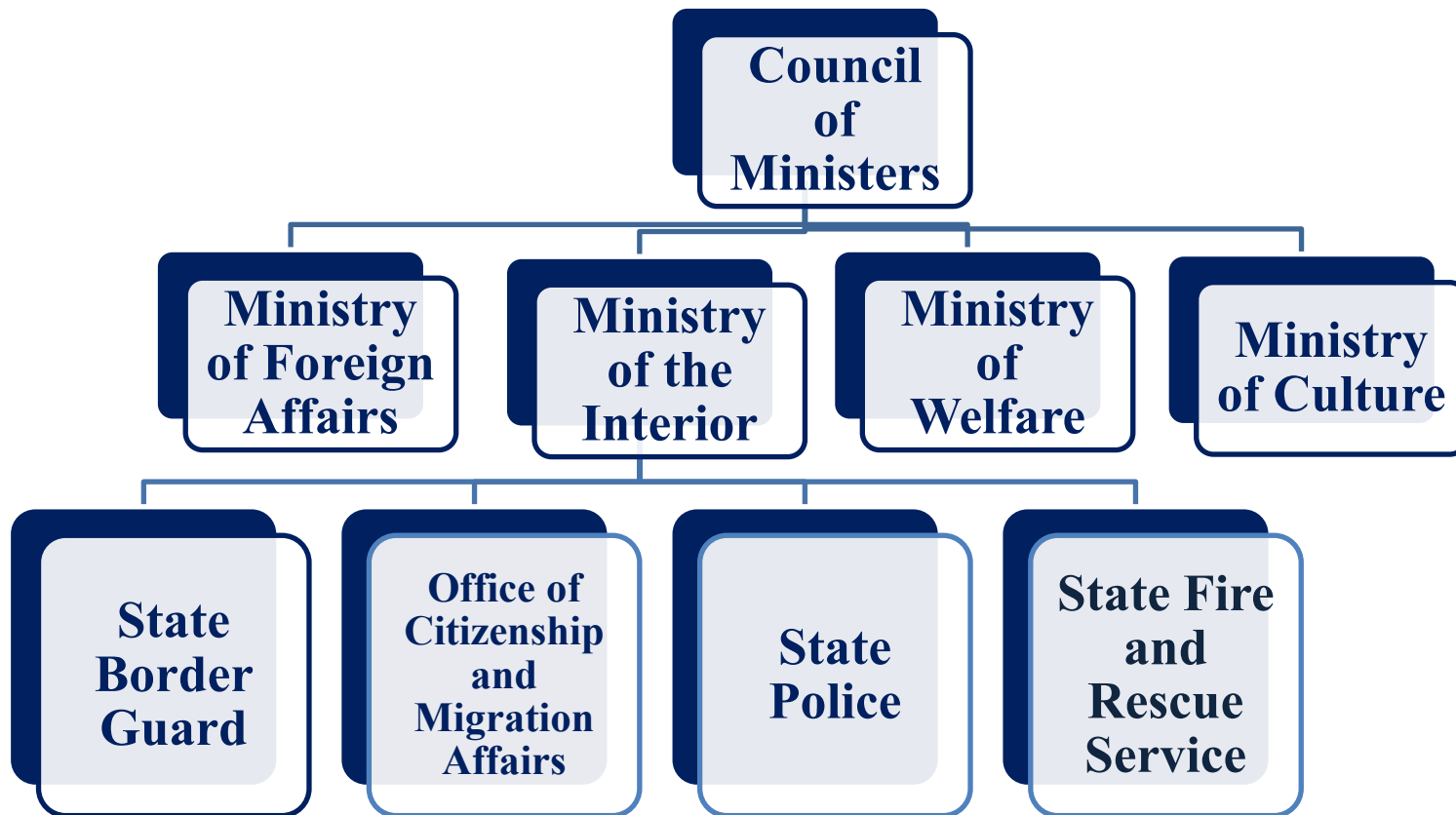
Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

**Experiences of States that do not immediately border  
Ukraine with secondary movements when applying the  
Temporary Protection Directive -  
LATVIA**



Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

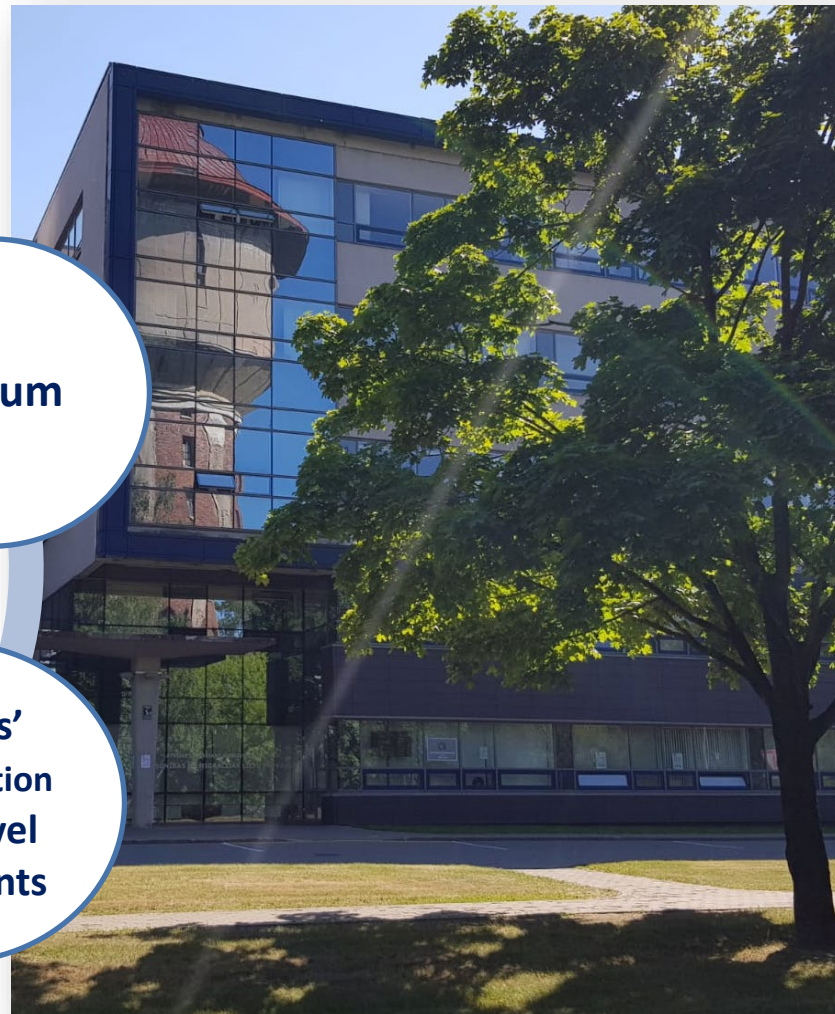
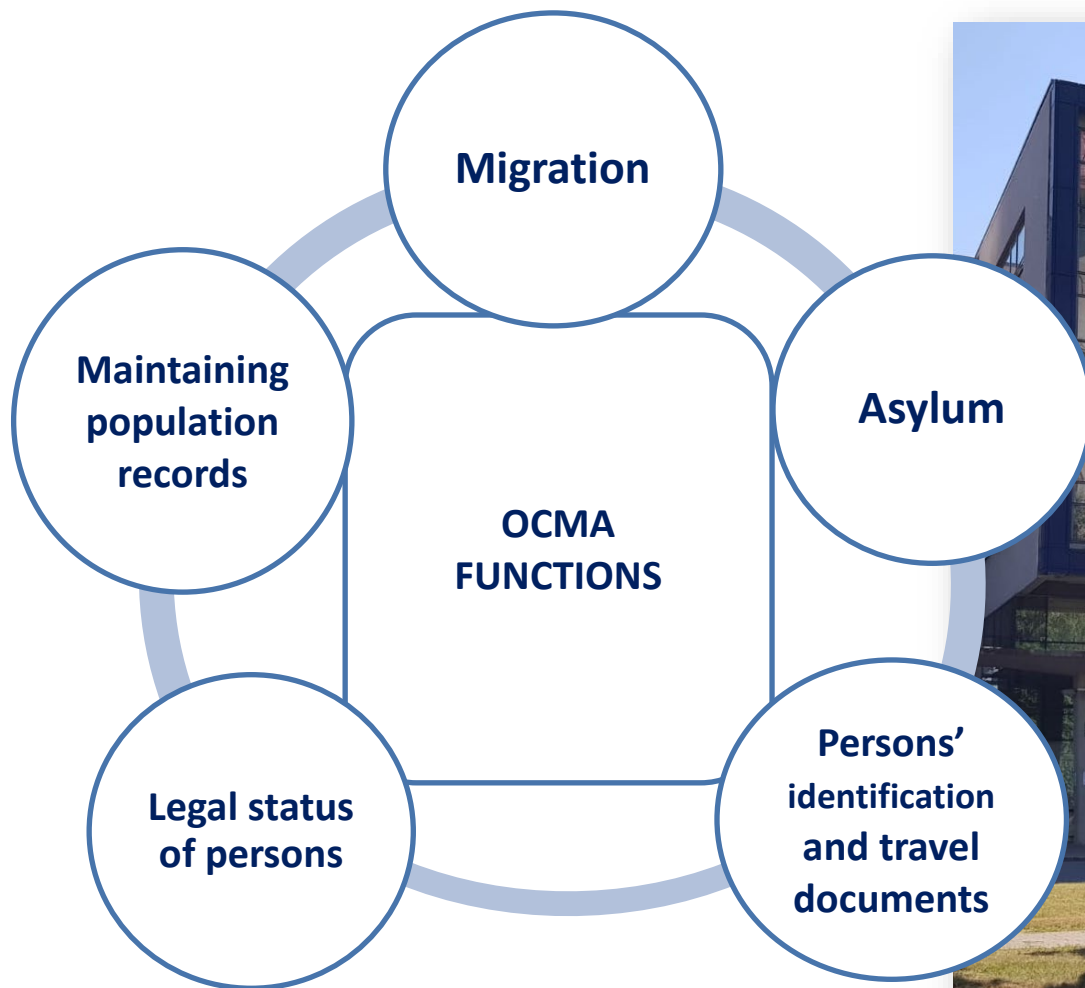
# System of migration management in Latvia





Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

# OCMA - modern and open state administration institution providing high standards of customer service

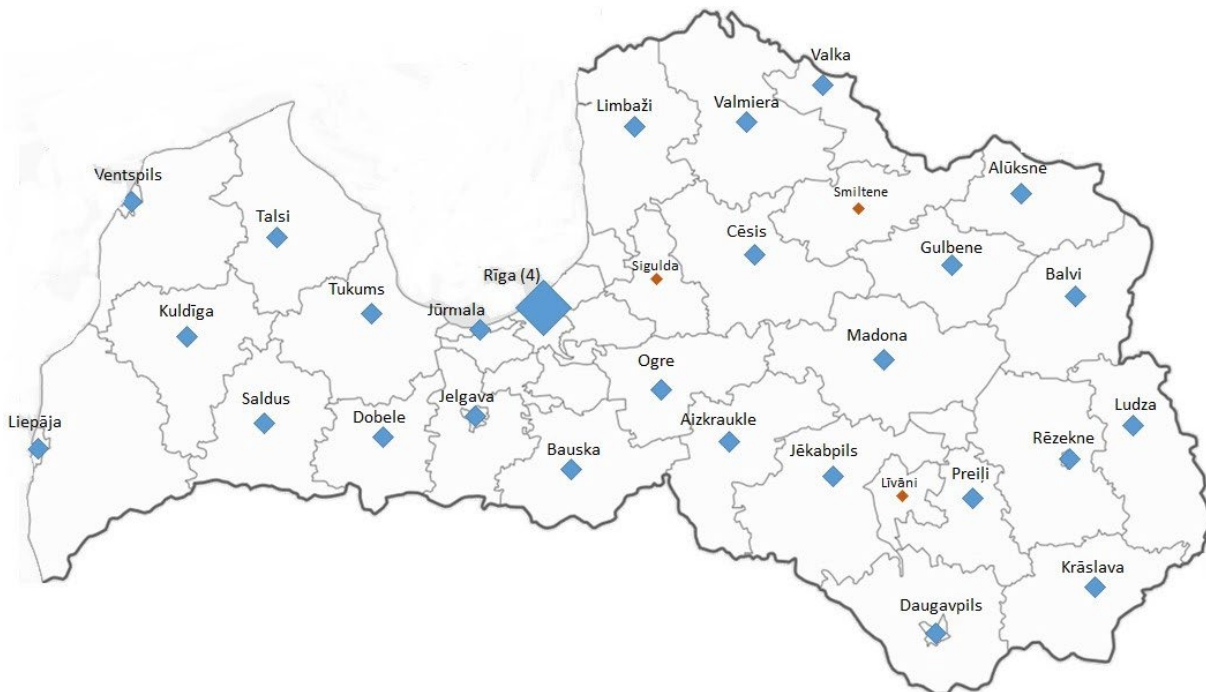




Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

## In 2022 OCMA'S functions are implemented by:

- ✓ ~**600** employees (incl. officials)
- ✓ **3** departments, **18** central divisions and **29** regional divisions
- ✓ **35** various services (including **20** e-services)
- ✓ annual budget: **20 921 572** euro





# General information about temporary protection

- Since the beginning of Russia's war against Ukraine, **41 403** Ukrainian people have been registered and received temporary protection in Latvia so far, while **35 037** refugees have been issued residence documents with the right to employment.
- Accommodation through the municipal civil protection commissions currently is provided to **12 593** persons. This means that the rest of the refugees have found a place of residence themselves or with help of NGO's or live with friends and relatives.
- Among refugees, 46% are women, 23% are men, while 31% are children, mostly 2 to 17 years old.
- **1938** - the number of persons for whom the entry "Temporary Protection of Latvia" has been canceled in the Register of Natural Persons.



Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

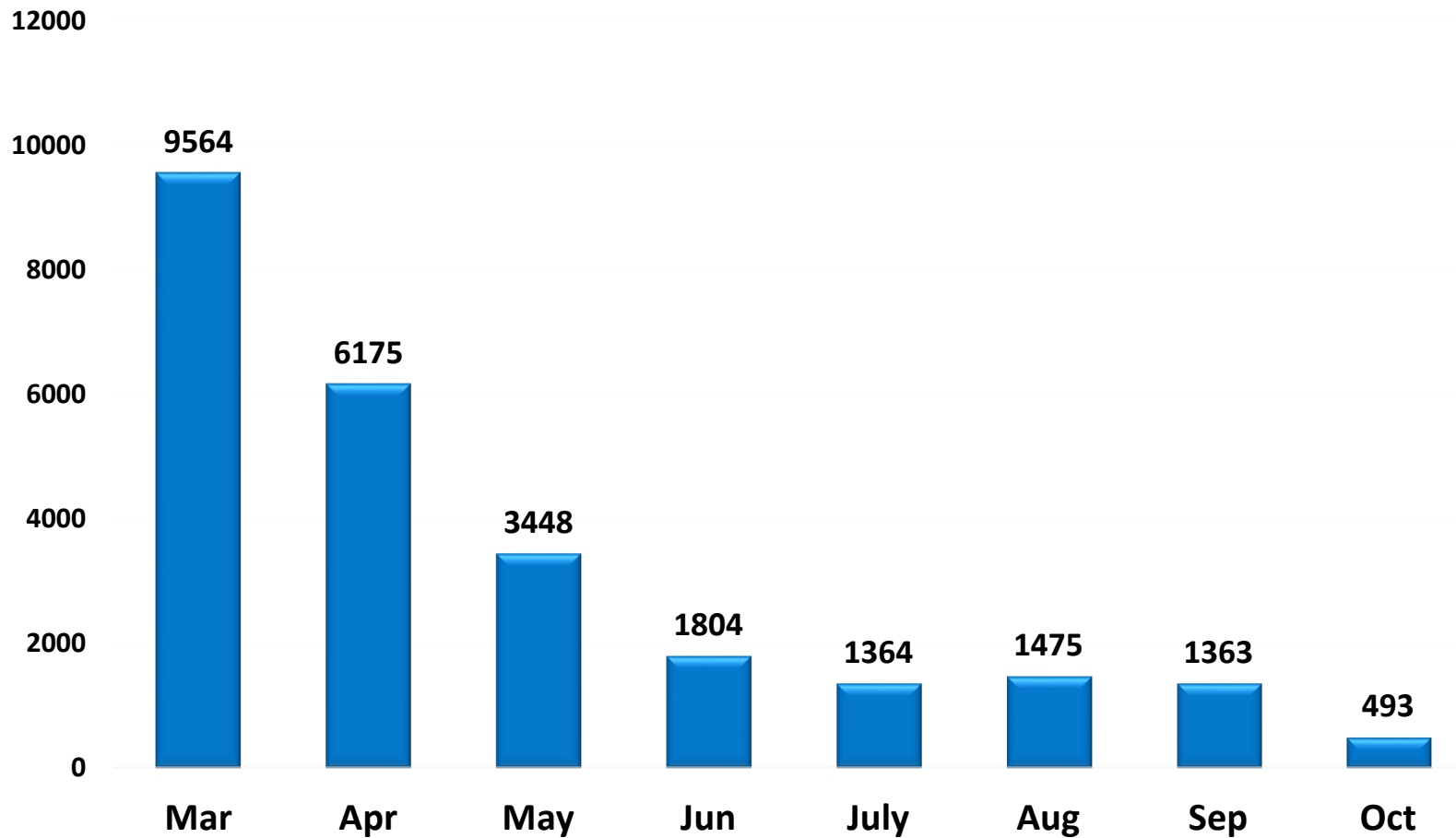
## Role of OCMA – issuance of long-term visas and temporary residence permits

- Persons who do have valid travel documents are granted long-term visas for one year.
- Persons who do not have valid travel documents are granted temporary residence permits for one year.
- Ukrainian residents may start employment in Latvia if they have obtained a long-term visa or residence permit with the right to employment without restrictions for a period of up to one year.
- Decisions on granting visas and residence permits are prepared within ten working days.
- Currently, until 12.10.2022, **25621** long-term visas have been issued to Ukrainian residents in Latvia.
- Currently, until 12.10.2022, **9416** temporary residence permits have been issued to Ukrainian residents in Latvia.



Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

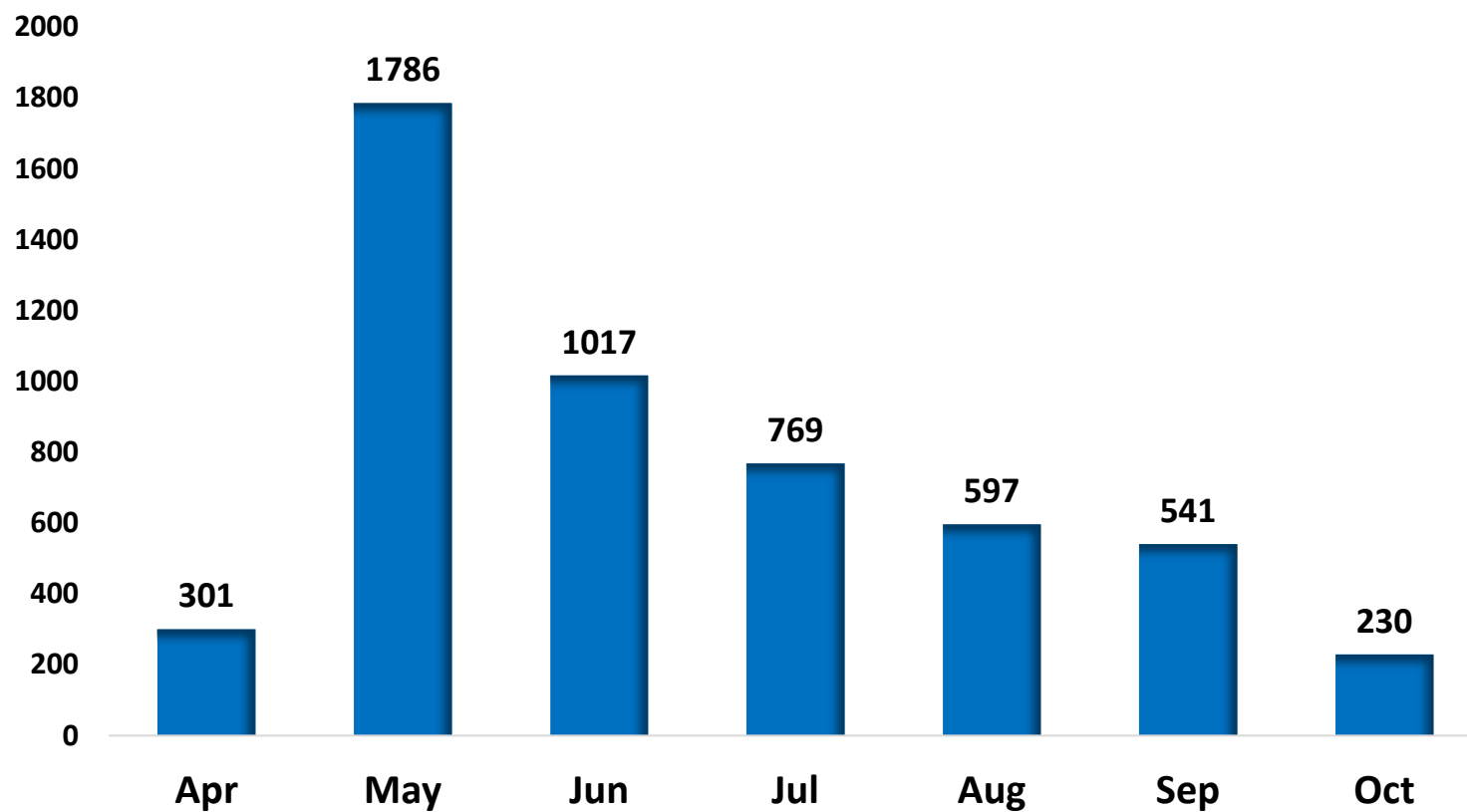
## Long – term visas issued to Ukrainian residents 2022





Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

## Temporary residence permits issued to Ukrainian residents 2022







Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

## Role of OCMA – accommodation of Ukrainian residents in transit

- To provide support to Ukrainian residents in transit, since 15.06.2022 OCMA is accommodating Ukrainian residents in transit in our accommodation center for asylum seekers «Mucenieki» in Ropaži district.
- AMIF funding is used to finance support to Ukrainian residents in transit.
- Accommodation capacity for Ukrainian residents in transit is 100 persons.
- Ukrainian residents in transit can stay in accommodation center up to 5 days.
- Since 15.06.2022 center have accommodated **1843** persons.
- Top destinations - (Latvia), Germany, Poland, Ireland.



# Binding regulatory acts

- On 28 February 2022, the Cabinet of Ministers approved a Plan in the event of a mass influx of people from Ukraine to Latvia. The aim of the Plan was to identify measures and resources to be implemented by public authorities, municipalities and businesses to ensure coordinated and immediate action to receive and host 10 000 persons who could arrive en masse from Ukraine.
- On 5 March 2022, Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians came into force which purpose is to provide assistance to Ukrainian civilians who leave Ukraine or who cannot return to Ukraine due to the armed conflict caused by the Russian Federation. Within the meaning of this Law, Ukrainian civilians are citizens of Ukraine and their family members, and also persons who have received a permanent residence permit, the status of a stateless person, or the status of international protection in Ukraine and their family members.
- On 29 April 2022, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the Action Plan for Supporting Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia, which provides for coordinated and immediate action by state institutions, municipalities and businesses to host, accommodate and provide social support to up to 40 000 Ukrainian civilians fleeing the war.



# Education

- The latest estimates by the Ministry of Education and Science show that **4,340** Ukrainian children will start the new school year. Two-thirds will go to school, the remaining one-third to kindergarten. The state provides, as until now, funding - for each Ukrainian pupil, it is €257 for the implementation of the individual plan, and the individual plan means learning the Latvian language. There is also €50 in aid for study materials.
- From 1 September 2022 minor Ukrainian residents are receiving their education in Latvia in the Latvian language. At the level of pre-school education or basic education, the child is also entitled to learn the minority education program, which is implemented in the Ukrainian language.
- Ukrainian residents can continue their studies as exchange students, while researchers can be employed in Latvian research institutions, receiving the same support for studies as for students in Latvia or researchers in existing research cooperation programs.



# Benefits and health

- One-off benefit in a crisis situation - 272 euros for an adult and 190 euros for a child.
- An additional monthly allowance of EUR 109 for the first person and EUR 76 for each subsequent person in a Ukrainian household.
- Other material support or social services according to the individual needs.
- Upon entering into employment, Ukrainian residents are entitled to a one-time employment allowance of EUR 500. The benefit must be applied for at the State Employment Agency within one month after starting work.
- Latvia provides accommodation and meals for Ukrainian residents in Latvia free of charge for the first 120 days to those, who have started receiving services before 24th of May and 120 days of accommodation and 30 days of free meals for those who have started receiving services from 25 May.
- Latvian residents who accommodate Ukrainian residents in their homes free of charge, are eligible to receive state support.
- Every Ukrainian resident who arrives in Latvia or is already here is eligible for the same free of charge state-covered healthcare and medical services, including medicines, as are available to Latvian residents. Ukrainian residents in Latvia can receive childbirth allowance, childcare allowance and family state allowance.



# Past and future challenges

- Capacity of OCMA – comparing to 2021 volume of issued visas have increased x 28.
- Lack of necessary staff – solved by AMIF funded project and help from other state institutions.
- Central Support Center for Residents of Ukraine in Riga
- Accommodation capacity for Ukrainian residents in Latvia.
- Difficult/unique cases.
- Renewal of residence documents for Ukrainian residents in Latvia in 2023.



Office of Citizenship and  
Migration Affairs  
Republic of Latvia

**Thank you for your attention!**